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she has gathered together a valuable collection of data from which important conclusions can be drawn as to the actual effects of equal suffrage upon politics, upon legislation and upon the women themselves.

The book is divided into two parts. First, a study of the public opinion of Colorado concerning the facts and effects of twelve years of equal suffrage in that state. Miss Sumner has endeavored here to crystallize public opinion by tabulating the answers to over 1200 question blanks circulated among the men and women of that state, some of whom were favorable and some unfavorable to equal suffrage. The second, and more valuable part, consists of another series of tables giving the ascertainable facts concerning the participation or non-participation of women in politics. By an effective citation of statistics the author shows conclusively that the women who vote in Colorado are of the middle and upper classes. The work is strengthened by telling comparisons with the conditions in other states. The investigation as a whole is careful and thoroughly scientific, and it gives a non-partisan yet conclusive sketch of equal suffrage at work.

NELLIE MARGUERITE SEEDS NEARING.

Philadelphia.

Thomas, W. I. *Source Book for Social Origins.* Pp. xvi, 932. Price, \$4.77.

Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1909.

"The study of savage and prehistoric man is one of the most fascinating and important of the social sciences, and at the same time one of the most esoteric. . . . On every score it deserves a wider recognition, and I should be happy if I could assist it to come to its own."

Every careful student realizes the importance of a greater knowledge of the customs, morals, conditions both physical and social, of other people and times. Existing literature is voluminous but scattered, and of great differences in value. Recognizing this, Professor Thomas seeks to put in convenient form some of the best authorities, and to suggest further literature.

The editor's plan is perhaps best shown by a brief analysis in tabular form:

Part I.—The Relation of Society to Geographic and Economic Environment. 114 pages, 8 papers with 4 pages of comment and 6 of bibliography.

Part II.—Mental Life and Education. 282 pages, 10 papers, 2 pages of comment and 14 of bibliography.

Part III.—Invention and Technology. 112 pages, 5 papers, 4 pages of comment and 4 of bibliography.

Part IV.—Sex and Marriage. 97 pages, 6 papers, 4 pages of comment and 5 of bibliography.

Part V.—Art, Ornament and Decoration. 108 pages, 6 papers, 8 pages of comment and 12 of bibliography.

Part VI.—Magic, Religion and Myth. 102 pages, 5 papers, 3 pages of comment and 14 of bibliography.

Part VII.—Social Organization, Morals, The State. 120 pages, 7 papers, 3 pages of comment and 11 of bibliography.

These separate bibliographies are supplemented by a very large general bibliography of fifty-four pages. It is evident that Professor Thomas, aside from the introductory chapter of twenty-four pages and two papers included in the text, has personally contributed little to the make-up of the volume. His comments are briefly explanatory of the significance of the papers or are critical of the methods and statements of the writers. Here his suggestions are excellent.

Many of the best known writers are drawn upon: Ratzel (5 times), Howitt (5), Spencer (4), Spencer and Gillen (4), Mason, Westermarck, Pitt-Rivers, Tyler, Morgan, Boas and Thomas (2 each), and 17 others for single papers.

The selections are excellent. It is hard to see how they could be improved. The volume is well arranged; the index adequate and satisfactory. It is altogether a most useful volume of great value, particularly in the many schools and libraries poorly equipped in these fields. It should find a place in every library and can be widely used. The reviewer heartily concurs in the almost naïve opening sentence of the preface, "This book will be found very interesting if read slowly" and would add—very confusing as to details if read too fast. No one but a master can hastily go through such a mass of evidence without becoming bewildered.

CARL KELSEY.

University of Pennsylvania.

Thompson, John G. *The Rise and Decline of the Wheat Growing Industry in Wisconsin.* Pp. 250. Price, 50 cents. Madison: University of Wisconsin, 1909.

In this, the work which Dr. Thompson submitted as a thesis for the degree of Ph.D., the wheat industry of the State of Wisconsin is traced from its beginnings to the present time. Wisconsin affords a unique field, inasmuch as the industry sprang up with unusual rapidity and then suddenly declined. It is pointed out in detail how it spread over a wide area during the years from 1850 to 1870, and then rapidly and steadily declined.

The causes of this rise and decline are explained. The early rise is attributed to the natural adaptability of the soil, the non-forested condition of the southern and western sections of the state, the availability of markets due to the efforts of the railways, the generous land policy of the government, and the economic and race habits of the early settlers.

The rapid decline is attributed primarily to the movement toward diversified agriculture as favored by the railways, the educational institutions and economic conditions; the fall in price of wheat and rise of railroad rates during the 70's and 80's, and the lack of effective organization among the wheat growers. Diversified agriculture found its foothold in the dairying industry, tobacco, hay, potatoes and grains such as rye, oats and barley.